

those affected by cancer for well over a decade. Today, I am honored to recognize this important event, its participants, and its worthy mission. I am especially pleased to acknowledge and congratulate the supporters of Relay For Life in Bridgeview, Illinois. The work and dedication of these individuals ensure a brighter future for those affected by cancer and serve as an inspiration to all citizens.

A TRIBUTE TO MEL OLSSON

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 20, 2007

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mel Olsson on his retirement after more than three decades in service of our country's defense and the men and women who build the submarines that protect our national security.

Mel began his career at Electric Boat in Groton, Connecticut as a pipefitter apprentice in 1961. After decades of work at EB, Mel was eventually elected in 1990 as President of the Marine Draftsmen's Association, MDA-UAW Local 571. Serving as MDA President until 2003, Mel served on a number of negotiating teams, and was chief negotiator for eight successful contract negotiations with Electric Boat and Computer Sciences Corporation.

Mel has not only ably represented his colleagues in Local 571, but he has also been a community pillar in eastern Connecticut by serving in state and local organizations. Mel served on the Board of Directors of the United Way, is a member of the Work Force Investment Board, and serves on the Board of Directors of the Charter Oak Federal Credit Union. In addition, Mel is the former Chairman of the Electric Boat Community Services Committee, and is a member of the Stonington Democratic Town Committee.

Mel and his wife, Dorothy, reside in Mystic and have been married for forty-two years. They are the proud parents of their daughter, Alyssa.

Mel retired as a Piping Design Tech at Electric Boat on May 31, 2007, after thirty-six years of remarkable service. The men and women of UAW/MDA 571 and Electric Boat will miss his leadership and vision inside the gates at EB, but I know they will join me in saluting Mel Olsson and his outstanding and unique career in eastern Connecticut.

IN RECOGNITION OF CAROL SCHACHTER, FORMER CHAIR OF COMMUNITY BOARD 6 OF MANHATTAN

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 20, 2007

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Carol Schachter, the former Chair of Community Board 6 of Manhattan. Ms. Schachter is being honored this month at the annual dinner of the Board, which plays a critical advisory function in New York City's municipal government on a wide range of matters relating to the quality of

life in several neighborhoods on Manhattan's East Side.

Originally appointed to serve on Community Board 6 in 1995, Carol Schachter served with distinction as its Chair from 2004 to 2006. She currently is the Board's Secretary and Chair of its Business Affairs and Street Activities Committee, positions she also held prior to her election as Chair. As Chair of Community Board 6, Carol Schachter helped spearhead the effort to preserve the "Sobriety Garden" at Bellevue Hospital, an initiative she undertook with her husband, John.

Ms. Schachter also ably oversaw the development of the Community Board's 197-A and 197-C zoning and land use plans. With the closing of the Con Edison waterside plant, a large swathe of Community Board 6 will be rezoned. This offers the opportunity to create new parks and open space, as well as new schools. The 197-A and 197-C plans address these important land use issues as well as other significant concerns in the Community Board 6 area. The Board's final submission was thoughtful and inspiring, presenting a promising vision of the future for its neighborhoods.

As the Chair of Manhattan Community Board 6, Ms. Schachter led her fellow Members in carrying out the Board's challenging mission of reviewing and advising municipal government on a broad spectrum of public policies and issues, such as land use, zoning, and the City budget. With firm and effective leadership, Carol Schachter led Community Board 6 as it monitored the nuts and bolts of municipal government, as well, including the delivery of City services. She devoted herself tirelessly to improving the local quality of life on concerns including traffic congestion, deteriorating housing stock, sanitation pick-up and street cleaning, and the oversight of local bars and restaurants. As the Board's Chair, she ably represented the interests of residents and businesses in a large, diverse area of Manhattan stretching from East 14th Street to East 59th Street and from Irving Place, Lexington and Park Avenues to the East River.

In addition to her tireless service to Community Board 6 of Manhattan, Carol Schachter has been a dedicated civic activist. She volunteered her time and effort as President of the Stuyvesant Park Neighborhood Association, serves as a member of the 13th, 17th and 19th Police Precinct Councils, and helped found the organization All Out Arts.

Madam Speaker, I request that my colleagues join me in paying tribute to Carol Schachter for her outstanding service and dedication to the civic life of our nation's greatest metropolis.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 20, 2007

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Madam Speaker, I regret that I could not vote on rollcall vote No. 502 through roll call vote No. 511, on June 19, 2007. Had I been present, I would have voted:

"Nay" on rollcall No. 502 on agreeing to the amendment to H.R. 2641, to reduce funding for the Army Corps of Engineers investigations by \$30 million.

"Nay" on rollcall No. 503 on agreeing to the amendment to H.R. 2641, to reduce funding for the Army Corps of Engineers construction by \$481 million.

"Nay" on rollcall No. 504 on agreeing to the amendment to H.R. 2641, to reduce funding for the Army Corps of Engineers Mississippi River and tributaries project by \$18 million.

"Nay" on rollcall No. 505 on agreeing to the amendment to H.R. 2641, to reduce funding for the Army Corps of Engineers operation and maintenance by \$184 million.

"Nay" on rollcall No. 506 on agreeing to the amendment to H.R. 2641, to Strike section 105 in the bill.

"Nay" on rollcall No. 507 on agreeing to the amendment to H.R. 2641, to reduce funding for the Bureau of Reclamation's water projects account by \$55 million.

"Nay" on rollcall No. 508 on agreeing to the amendment to H.R. 2641, to reduce funding for Bureau of Reclamation's policy and administration account by \$1.2 million.

"Nay" on rollcall No. 509 on agreeing to the amendment to H.R. 2641, to reduce funding for energy efficiency and renewable energy programs (Weatherization Assistance) by \$102 million.

"Nay" on rollcall No. 510 on agreeing to the amendment to H.R. 2641, to redirect \$20 million in funding within the Nuclear Energy account to support the Nuclear Power 2010 program from Gen IV reactor program.

"Nay" on rollcall No. 511 on agreeing to the amendment to H.R. 2641, to reduce funding for fossil fuels research and development by \$142 million.

THE VISITING NURSE ASSOCIATION OF CENTRAL JERSEY—95 YEARS OF OUTSTANDING SERVICE

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 20, 2007

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, today I would like to recognize the achievements of the Visiting Nurse Association of Central Jersey. Since its establishment in 1912, this nonprofit, voluntary organization has treated individuals of all needs and ages living in my district and the surrounding region. In its 95 years of service, the organization has undergone numerous successful expansions, helping it to become a top provider of hospice and in-home health care in central New Jersey.

With an original mission to improve prison conditions and approaches to public assistance, the agency over the years has broadened the type of community care it provides. Now it is most well known for its outstanding in-home services. These services are critical to individuals who need frequent and adequate care in order to remain in their own homes.

The association's team of nurses continually strive to keep up with in-home technological advances, ensuring that patients receive the latest in quality care. VNACJ looks after the aging population, founding a local hospice program in the 1980s and 1990s. At the other end of the spectrum, VNACJ also focuses its efforts on the needs of children. The organization has worked to expand handicap services